PROTECTION

started in Talakad, Kuderu, Devanoor and Ravandoor in Mysore District, at Megaravally in Shimoga District, and at Nagavally, Kadaba, Midigesi and Huliyar in Tumkur District. Shandies were established afresh in Tubagere and Gudemaranahally in Bangalore District.

183. The question of making effective arrangement for the maintenance of roads by Government and the District Boards, classifying them into four classes was considered by the Road Classification Committee.

184. During the year a Malnad Conference was organised at Shimoga under the joint auspices of the Shimoga District Development Committee and Shimoga District Board. The representatives of several District Boards attended the All-India L.S.G. Conference held at Delhi.

(xi) Beggar Relief Scheme.

185. One thousand three hundred and sixteen beggars were arrested by the special staff of the Colony. Of these, 614 beggars were released by the Receiving Officer after holding detailed enquiry and after obtaining self-bond or surety bond as was the case on their promise not to beg again, as against 732 in the previous year. The remaining beggars were produced before the Magistrate who after enquiry released 546 beggars. Six beggars who were found to be incorrigible were sentenced by the Court to undergo simple imprisonment ranging from two weeks to twelve weeks in the Central Jail. One hundred and eighteen beggars were ordered to be detained and transferred to the Relief Centre for being maintained in the Colony. The number of persons so transferred to the Relief Centre during the previous year was 195. Thirty-nine beggars being second offenders non-Mysoreans were repatriated up to the State border by placing them in charge of the Railway Guard as against 135 persons during the previous year.

186. *Relief Centre.*—The total number of beggars who were permanently detained and given food and clothing was 269 (304). Of these, 36 beggars were discharged, 53 beggars who gave assurances that they will not beg and would try to live as good citizens were released by the officer-in-charge on parole and most of them are not to be found in the city. Twenty (79) beggars were admitted

to several hospitals. The total number of beggars at the close of the year was 129 on the roll.

Cottage Industries.

187. The Industries Department opened a mat-weaving centre at the colony and one Mat-weaving Instructor was deputed to give practical demonstration in the weaving mats and to train the able bodied beggars in the technique of mat-weaving. Twenty-five beggars learnt the art quite well as against 20 in the previous year. Sanction was accorded for the introduction of tailoring and crockery in the colony.

188. Some more cattage industries were proposed to be introduced with a view to provide training to allt he deserving beggars.

189. About 15 acres of land were cultivated by utilising the labour available in the colony. A small vegetable garden was formed by making use of the sewage water. A sum of Rs. 212 was realised by the sale of vegetables and a sum of Rs. 755 from the sale of horsegram harvested in the colony lands.

Education.

190. At the primary school in the colony, the first three classes in Kannada were running. There were 40 boys attending the school. There were 45 adult beggars (males and females) attending the Adult Literacy classes opened for the benefit of the adult inmates of the colony.

Recreation.

191. The colony was provided with a Radio and loud speaker set which were operated both in the afternoons and evenings when the inmates were given leisure. Bhajana sets were also provided for the benefit of the beggars. Boys were allowed to play foot-ball.

192. The colony has reformed 53 beggars as good citizens.

(xii) Village Panchayets and Rural Drive.

193. The number of village panchayets in the State was 12,498 (12,571) including the panchayets constituted for the villages transferred to Mysore State.

194. Eleven thousand five hundred and twenty-two panchayets elected their own chairmen. The number of meetings held by the village panchayets was 34,165 (31,194). Since the new Village Panchayets and District Boards Bill was under consideration, the term of office of